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NASA CREATES SPACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM OPERATIONS OFFICE

A new Headquarters program office has been established to be responsible for operations of the Space Transportation System; NASA Administrator Dr. Robert A. Frosch has announced.

The new office, headed by an Associate Administrator to be named soon, will have charge of Space Transportation System operations and functions including scheduling, manifesting, pricing and launch service agreements, the Spacelab program, and NASA's expendable launch vehicles, except for development of Space Shuttle upper stages. The new office will be the principal interface with all STS users.

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The Office of Space Transportation Systems is being renamed the Office of Space Transportation System Acquisition.

John F. Yardley, presently NASA's Associate Administrator for Space Transportation Systems, will be Associate Administrator for Space Transportation System Acquisition. He will be responsible for the development and acquisition of the Space Transportation System, including the Space Shuttle, and its upper stages, associated ground facilities and equipment, and system improvements.

In announcing this change, Frosch said, "This organizational move streamlines our Shuttle management system by freeing John Yardley to focus his attention on getting the Shuttle system built and flying, and by centralizing our Shuttle services in a new, user-oriented organization."

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